

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 02487 051157Z

70

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 OMB-01 IO-11 /073 W
----- 062718

R 051112Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7824

INFO AMCONGEN HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL UDORN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 2487

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR,LA, TH

SUBJECT: LAO-THAI RELATIONS

REF: VIENTIANE 299

1. FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 3 THAT HE CONTINUES TO AWAIT WORD AS TO WHETHER TO TRAVEL TO VIENTIANE FOR MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETINGS WITH HIS PDRL COUNTERPART. WE GATHER THAT PROSPECTS ARE NOW DIM FOR ANY MEETING SOON IN VIEW OF THAI INVOLVEMENT IN A SERIES OF ASEAN MEETINGS AND THE REPORTED DEPARTURE OF THE LAO DELEGATION TO NORTH VIET-NAM.

2. CHATCHAI ALSO SAID HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND THE LAO ATTITUDE. "A THAI WAS KILLED IN THE MOST RECENT SHOOTING INCIDENT, AND THEY SEEM TO CARE LESS THAN NOTHING ABOUT IT." HE SUGGESTED THAT THAI NATIONALS NOT VISIT VIENTIANE, SINCE IT IS NOT SAFE. THE BORDER CAN BE REOPENED AT OTHER POINTS IF MEASURES ARE NEGOTIATED TO PROTECT THAILAND FROM ANY "DISADVANTAGES AND DANGERS", ESPECIALLY FROM LAO--WHO MAY BE BONA FIDE REFUGEES NOR NOT--ENTERING THAILAND IN LARGE NUMBERS.

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 02487 051157Z

3. AS THE LAO PUBLICIZE ALLEGED THAI MISDEEDS (REFTEL),
THE BANGKOK POST REPORTED FEBRUARY 5 THAT PL FIRED ACROSS THE
RIVER TOWARD NONG KHAI PROVINCE TWO NIGHTS EARLIER AS THAI
POLICE FIRED WARNING SHOTS TO HALT A THAI BOAT PROBABLY
ENGAGED IN SMUGGLING GOODS INTO LAOS.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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